REMARKS

Claims 1-10, 12-16, 18-22 and 24-29 are currently pending in the subject application and are presently under consideration. Claims 1, 6, 10, 12, 16, 18, 22 and 24 have been amended as shown on pp. 2-8 of the Reply. Claims 9, 15 and 21 have been canceled.

Applicants' representative thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the teleconference of April 28, 2008.

Since the amended limitations merely emphasize subject matter as originally claimed, these limitations should already have been considered during an initial search in connection with the subject application. Pursuant to MPEP §714.13, applicants' representative submits that the amendments to these claims "only requires a cursory review by the Examiner" and thus, entry and consideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the comments and amendments herein.

I. Rejection of Claims 1-10, 12-16 and 18-22 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-10, 12-16 and 18-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Moyer *et al.* (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0135596 A1), in view of Latvakoski *et al.* (U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0153548 A1). It is respectfully requested that this rejection should be withdrawn for at least the following reasons. Moyer *et al.* and Latvakoski *et al.*, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest each and every element as set forth in the subject claims.

The claimed subject matter relates to a networked computing environment for automatically configuring a computing device according to a detected network. In particular, independent claim 1 recites a networked computing environment for providing network services to computing devices, the networked computing environment comprising: *a communication network operable to communicate with a plurality of computing devices; and configuration information associated with the communication network, the configuration information describing a configuration for computing devices connected to the communication network;...; wherein the computing device is further configured based on the occurrence of a triggering event, the triggering event comprises a predetermined geographical area, a particular date, a particular day of the week and a particular time of day, such that detection of the triggering event initiates configuration information specifically associated with the detected*

triggering event; ***wherein the configuration information further includes an indicator identifying whether computing device features not specifically identified in the configuration information should or should not be available while the computing device is connected to the communication network, such that the computing device makes available or unavailable computing device features not specifically identified in the configuration information according to the indicator;....*** The cited references do not expressly or inherently disclose the aforementioned novel aspects of applicants' claimed subject matter as recited in the subject claims.

Moyer *et al.* discloses a network configuration manager that performs end-to-end configuration management and configuration validation of the customer premise network to enable a requested service to operate within the network. (*See* pg. 1, paragraph [0008]).

In contrast, applicants' claimed subject matter discloses a networked computing environment for providing network services to computing devices. Configuration information, specific to the network is provided, such that the computing device may automatically configure itself according to the configuration information. Further, default configurations are stored on the computing device and automatically configured when there is no current network connection.

In addition to configuring the computing device according to a detected network, configuration information also includes additional conditional criteria. The additional criteria may control the configuration according to specific days of the week, times of day, or other conditions, such as whether a homework assignment, is or is not completed. (*See* pg. 9, line 16-pg. 11, line 30).

Moyer *et al.* merely discloses a packet sniffer that monitors all network traffic emanating from within the network and initiates the network configuration. Upon detecting a new service, the packet sniffer notes the source host and invokes a request to the server interface to configure the network for the specific service. Applicants' claimed computing environment discloses automatically configuring a computing device according to configuration information specific to a detected network, wherein the configuration information includes additional conditional criteria which controls the configuration according to specific days of the week, times of day, *etc.* Further, the configuration information includes an indicator that identifies whether specific computing device features not identified in the configuration information should or should not be available to the computing device. Moyer *et al.* invokes a request to configure the network for

the specific service. Moyer *et al.* does not disclose automatically configuring a computing device according to configuration information and further identifying whether additional computing device features not provided for in the configuration information should or should not be available to the computing device, as disclosed in applicants' claimed subject matter.

Accordingly, Moyer *et al.* does not expressly or inherently disclose a computing environment, comprising: ... ***wherein the configuration information further includes an indicator identifying whether computing device features not specifically identified in the configuration information should or should not be available while the computing device is connected to the communication network, such that the computing device makes available or unavailable computing device features not specifically identified in the configuration information according to the indicator***....

Latvakoski *et al.* does not cure the deficiencies of Moyer *et al.* Latvakoski *et al.* discloses a method for providing a configuration parameter, such as a server, gateway or proxy server address(es), to a terminal device. A trigger control information defining trigger events is loaded to the terminal device and a discovery procedure for obtaining the configuration parameters is initiated when at least one of the trigger events and/or conditions is detected. (*See* pg. 2, paragraphs [0009]-[0012]). Latvakoski *et al.* is cited by the Examiner for disclosing a triggering event that triggers configuration parameters of servers or proxy servers. Latvakoski *et al.* does not disclose automatically configuring a computing device according to configuration information and further identifying whether additional computing device features not provided for in the configuration information should or should not be available to the computing device, as disclosed in applicants' claimed subject matter.

Furthermore, independent claim 6 recites a computing system that automatically configures according to a detected network, the computing system comprising: *a processor; a memory; and a network interface for connecting to a communication network; wherein the computing system, upon dynamically establishing a connection to a communication network: obtains configuration information associated with the communication network; and automatically configures itself according to the configuration information;...;* ***wherein the configuration information further includes information indicating whether computing system features not specifically identified in the configuration information should or should not be available while the computing system is connected to the communication network;*** *and*....

As stated *supra*, Moyer *et al.* merely discloses a packet sniffer that monitors all network traffic emanating from within the network and initiates the network configuration. Upon detecting a new service, the packet sniffer notes the source host and invokes a request to the server interface to configure the network for the specific service. Thus, Moyer *et al.* invokes a request to configure the network for the specific service. Moyer *et al.* does not disclose automatically configuring a computing device according to configuration information and further identifying whether additional computing device features not provided for in the configuration information should or should not be available to the computing device, as disclosed in applicants' claimed subject matter. And, Latvakoski *et al.* does not cure the deficiencies of Moyer *et al.* Latvakoski *et al.* discloses a method for providing a configuration parameter, such as a server, gateway or proxy server address(es), to a terminal device. A trigger control information defining trigger events is loaded to the terminal device and a discovery procedure for obtaining the configuration parameters is initiated when at least one of the trigger events and/or conditions is detected.

Furthermore, independent claim 12 recites a method for automatically configuring a computing device according to a detected network, the method comprising:*...; and* ***wherein the configuration information further includes an indicator identifying whether computing device features not specifically identified in the configuration information should or should not be available while the computing device is connected to the communication network, and wherein automatically configuring the computing device according to the configuration information further comprises making available or unavailable computing device features not specifically identified in the configuration information according to the indicator while the computing device is connected to the communication network.***

As stated *supra*, Moyer *et al.* merely discloses a packet sniffer that monitors all network traffic emanating from within the network and initiates the network configuration. Moyer *et al.* invokes a request to configure the network for the specific service. Moyer *et al.* does not disclose automatically configuring a computing device according to configuration information and further identifying whether additional computing device features not provided for in the configuration information should or should not be available to the computing device, as disclosed in applicants' claimed subject matter. And, Latvakoski *et al.* merely discloses a method for providing a configuration parameter, such as a server, gateway or proxy server

address(es), to a terminal device. A trigger control information defining trigger events is loaded to the terminal device and a discovery procedure for obtaining the configuration parameters is initiated when at least one of the trigger events and/or conditions is detected.

Furthermore, independent claim 18 recites a computer-readable medium, having computer-readable instructions, which when executed on a computer, carry out the method comprising:*...; and* ***wherein the configuration information further includes an indicator identifying whether computer features not specifically identified in the configuration information should or should not be available while the computer is connected to the communication network, and wherein automatically configuring the computer according to the configuration information further comprises making available or unavailable computer features not specifically identified in the configuration information according to the indicator while the computer is connected to the communication network.***

As stated *supra*, Moyer *et al.* merely discloses a packet sniffer that monitors all network traffic emanating from within the network and initiates the network configuration. Moyer *et al.* does not disclose automatically configuring a computing device according to configuration information and further identifying whether additional computing device features not provided for in the configuration information should or should not be available to the computing device, as disclosed in applicants' claimed subject matter. And, Latvakoski *et al.* merely discloses a method for providing a configuration parameter, such as a server, gateway or proxy server address(es), to a terminal device. A trigger control information defining trigger events is loaded to the terminal device and a discovery procedure for obtaining the configuration parameters is initiated when at least one of the trigger events and/or conditions is detected.

In view of at least the above, it is readily apparent that the cited references fail to expressly or inherently disclose applicants' claimed subject matter as recited in independent claims 1, 6, 12 and 18 (and claims 2-5, 7-10, 13-16 and 19-22 which respectively depend there from). Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that these claims be deemed allowable.

II. Rejection of Claims 24 and 26-29 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 24 and 26-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Moyer *et al.*, in view of Cohen *et al.* (U.S. Pub. No. 2005/0044215 A1). It is respectfully requested that this rejection should be withdrawn for at least the following reasons. Moyer *et al.* and Cohen *et al.*, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest each and every element as set forth in the subject claims.

As stated *supra*, the claimed subject matter relates to a networked computing system that automatically configures according to a detected network. In particular, independent claim 24 recites a method for automatically configuring a computing device according to a detected triggering event, the method comprising: *...; upon detecting that the computing device is no longer connected to a communication network, the computing device configures itself according to default configuration information; and* ***wherein the configuration information includes an indicator identifying whether computing device features not specifically identified in the configuration information should or should not be available while the computing device is connected to the communication network, and wherein automatically configuring the computing device according to the configuration information further comprises making available or unavailable computing device features not specifically identified in the configuration information according to the indicator while the computing device is connected to the communication network***. The cited references do not expressly or inherently disclose the aforementioned novel aspects of applicants' claimed subject matter as recited in the subject claims.

Moyer *et al.* discloses a network configuration manager that performs end-to-end configuration management and configuration validation of the customer premise network to enable a requested service to operate within the network. (*See* pg. 1, paragraph [0008]).

In contrast, applicants' claimed subject matter discloses a method for automatically configuring a computing device. Configuration information, specific to the network is provided, such that the computing device may automatically configure itself according to the configuration information. Further, default configurations are stored on the computing device and automatically configured when there is no current network connection.

In addition to configuring the computing device according to a detected network, configuration information also includes additional conditional criteria. The additional criteria

may control the configuration according to specific days of the week, times of day, or other conditions, such as whether a homework assignment, is or is not completed. (*See* pg. 9, line 16-pg. 11, line 30).

Moyer *et al.* merely discloses a packet sniffer that monitors all network traffic emanating from within the network and initiates the network configuration. Upon detecting a new service, the packet sniffer notes the source host and invokes a request to the server interface to configure the network for the specific service. Applicants' claimed computing environment discloses automatically configuring a computing device according to configuration information specific to a detected network, wherein the configuration information includes additional conditional criteria which controls the configuration according to specific days of the week, times of day, *etc.* Further, the configuration information includes an indicator that identifies whether specific computing device features not identified in the configuration information should or should not be available to the computing device. Moyer *et al.* invokes a request to configure the network for the specific service. Moyer *et al.* does not disclose automatically configuring a computing device according to configuration information and further identifying whether additional computing device features not provided for in the configuration information should or should not be available to the computing device, as disclosed in applicants' claimed subject matter.

Accordingly, Moyer *et al.* does not expressly or inherently disclose a method for automatically configuring a computing device..., comprising: ... ***wherein the configuration information further includes an indicator identifying whether computing device features not specifically identified in the configuration information should or should not be available while the computing device is connected to the communication network, such that the computing device makes available or unavailable computing device features not specifically identified in the configuration information according to the indicator***....

Cohen *et al.* does not cure the deficiencies of Moyer *et al.* Cohen *et al.* discloses an automation engine that is configured to automatically run network data collection, analysis, and reporting tools. Each tool is designed or modified to enable the parameters required for operating the tool to be read from a settings file. The automation engine is configured to provide the appropriate settings file to each tool to perform a given set of tasks. Tasks can be performed on-demand, on predefined schedules, or upon detection of a triggering event. A triggering event

is described as a user-induced event, a timed event, an anticipated event, an anomalous event, *etc.* (*See* pg.1, paragraph [0006]).

However, Cohen *et al.* does not disclose automatically configuring a computing device according to configuration information specific to a detected network, wherein the configuration information includes additional conditional criteria which controls the configuration according to specific days of the week, times of day, *etc.* The triggering event of Cohen *et al.* merely determines when a given set of tasks are performed. Furthermore, applicants' claimed method also discloses storing default configurations on the computing device and automatically configuring the computing system with the default configurations when there is no current network connection. Cohen *et al.* does not disclose automatically configuring a computing device to a default setting when there is no current network connection.

Furthermore, dependent claims 26-29 further define applicants' claimed triggering event, such as the occurrence of a particular date, a particular day of the week, a particular time of day, and a change in the network connection. Cohen *et al.* merely discloses a triggering event as a user-induced event, a timed event, an anticipated event, an anomalous event, *etc.* Cohen *et al.* does not disclose configuring controls according to a specific day of the week, particular network connected to, *etc.*

Accordingly, Cohen *et al.* does not expressly or inherently disclose a method, comprising: ...***upon detecting that the computing device is no longer connected to a communication network, the computing device configures itself according to default configuration information***.

In view of at least the above, it is readily apparent that the cited references fail to expressly or inherently disclose applicants' claimed subject matter as recited in independent claim 24 (and claims 26-29 which depend there from). Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that these claims be deemed allowable.

III. Rejection of Claim 25 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claim 25 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Moyer *et al.* and Cohen *et al.*, and further in view of Latvakoski *et al.* (U.S. Pub. No 2004/0153548 A1). It is respectfully requested that this rejection should be withdrawn for at least the following reasons. Moyer *et al.*, Cohen *et al.* and Latvakoski *et al.*, individually or in combination, do not

teach or suggest each and every element as set forth in the subject claims. In particular, Latvakoski *et al.* does not make up for the aforementioned deficiencies of Moyer *et al.* and Cohen *et al.* with respect to independent claim 24 (which claim 25 depends from). Thus, the subject invention as recited in claim 25 is not obvious over the combination of Moyer *et al.*, Cohen *et al.* and Latvakoski *et al.*

CONCLUSION

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [MSFTP2194US].

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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